

COASTAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH BOARD BRIEF OVERVIEW

The Coastal Engineering Research Board (CERB) functions as an advisory board to the Chief of Engineers and was established by Public Law in 1963. It was originally the Beach Erosion Board established in 1930.

The CERB provides broad policy guidance and review of plans and fund requirements for the conduct of research and development of research projects in consonance with the needs of the coastal engineering field and the objectives of the Chief of Engineers.

The Board meets semiannually around the U.S. coastline and the Great Lakes on a rotating basis.

The Board is comprised of seven members. The President of the Board is the military position of Director of Civil Works. The other three military members are senior officers that are division engineers of coastal divisions. The three civilian members are outstanding in the broad field of coastal engineering. The Commander of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center acts as the Executive Secretary of the CERB and is responsible for all administrative functions of the Board.

The military members usually serve until their tenure as a Division Commander is completed or as determined by the Chief of Engineers. The civilian members serve two-year terms not to exceed four years.